

Water Hammer Press



VOLUME 3, ISSUE 1

1st Quarter, 2005

Inside this newsletter

From the Investigators' Corner	2
Congratulations!	2
HazMat Updates	2
Spotlight	3
Union Update	3
131 st Street Fire	3
CAP Food & Toy Drive	3
EMS Updates	3
TeleStaff Update	4
New Faces	4
Engineer Promotions List	4
Ben Franklin's "Ounce of Prevention" Led To Volunteer Firefighting In America	4

Happenings

May 28 — June 3
Hoosier Burn Camp

June 1
HBC Ride and Visitors' Day



Clothe-A-Child participants visit with Santa Claus.



Rhea Lannan with new friend at Clothe-A-Child.

Year-to-date Statistics

EMS Runs:	253
Fire Runs:	393
Total Runs:	646

Fire & Ice Ball



Nearly 300 people attended this year's Fire & Ice Ball at the Ritz Charles on November 13th!

Chief Callahan and 27 CFD personnel received their service awards. The Auxiliary raised \$4600 in raffle proceeds for the Tyler Frenzel Treehouse fund.

The Carmel Fire Department gives very special thanks to our sponsors to whom we credit the wonderful success of this year's program!



(l-r): FF Ken Brant, Lt. Steve Edwards, Capt. Steve Baskerville, and Capt. Chad Hughes

Clothe-A-Child

150 children and nearly 60 volunteers participated in this year's Clothe-A-Child. Volunteers met at the Carmel Meijer to help children purchase new clothing, especially items like warm winter coats and boots.



Lt. Jeff Fuchs, Lt. Gary Brandt and FF Renee Butts with their shopping buddies.

Buses then brought the children to Station #41 to visit Santa Claus. Santa's helper, Dougie Dolen, handed out goodie bags containing small toys. After all their hard work shopping for clothes and negotiating with St. Nick for toys, the children feasted on 60 pizzas!

Thanks to everyone who assisted us and please join us December 7th for our next Clothe-A-Child event!

Chief's Moment

Congratulations to each of our newly promoted Engineers! We are all proud of your accomplishment. I want to thank Battalion Chief Frank Vallone and his committee for their hard work and time throughout the Engineers' Testing Process. The committee spent numerous hours working with IPSP (Institute for Public Safety Personnel Inc.) formatting the testing procedures. I understand several other fire departments have since contacted IPSP about their interest in using our format! The new Engineer promotions were submitted for approval at the Board of Public Works and Safety Meeting on March 2nd. The promotions were approved and will become effective March 12th.

With the latest promotions winding down, our department's next adventure will be the Accreditation Process. Jan Hope will be heading this up but it will require the entire department's participation. During the next two years, every one of us will play a role in the development of our accreditation approval. You will be asked from time to time to assist in some way, such as helping write a new policy, reviewing an existing policy or reviewing and providing feedback on proposed policies. It is very important if you are asked to participate in the process that you please respond as quickly as possible, in order for us to meet our prescribed timelines. We will be addressing several objectives involving the Rules & Regulations and Standard Operating Proce-

(Continued on page 4)

From the Investigators' Corner

On Dec. 26, 2004 at 03:59 I was awakened by the fire tones reporting a residence fire at 14342 Ditch Road. My thought that we were going to get through the holidays without a major structural fire was soon squelched.

Engine-46 arrived on the scene first with heavy fire conditions coming from a 1st floor window with extension into the attic area.



The occupants were out of the house and safely sitting in a vehicle. With a raw air temperature of 14 degrees and 9 inches of snow on the ground, the crews did a great job. The story and a half farmhouse had 3 dormers on the front. There was a little confusion in finding the stairs to the 2nd floor but once we learned that this was only a single story residence a number of our concerns were alleviated.

The fire originated in a bedroom and closest with fire then spreading into the family room and attic. The interior finish of this house consisted of wood paneling which added to the fuel load.

With everything in the fire rooms burned to below floor level, there was not a lot to work with to find the cause. Interviews were conducted with the occupants, using the information ob-

tained; we were able to isolate possible energy sources in the area that could have ignited the fire.

The energy source ended up being a television set that was turned on prior to the beginning of the fire. For fire personnel present, it appeared that there was more damage to the floor under the bed located on the south wall than damage found near the TV located on the north wall.

As you know, generally the area with the most damage may be considered the most likely area that the fire started—NOT IN THIS CASE. There was a window on the north wall that was compromised in the early stages of the fire, which gave a good O₂ supply to the fire. The extensive fire damage under the bed on the opposite wall occurred due to a good free burn to the bed caused by air currents from the window and the large fuel load from the bed.

The most likely cause of this fire directs us back to the television and its main power supply pack. The TV was reported to us as being turned on prior to the beginning of the fire. The occupant of the room stated that when she woke up she saw flames on the floor spreading upwards toward the TV. She was in the bed, was not injured, and was sure that the bed was not burning.

There was an area of the floor at the TV that was also burned through. When a power pack malfunctions it will heat to a high enough temperature to ignite its plastic housing. Once this plastic starts to burn, it will drip like tar and ignite other nearby combustibles.

This concludes that the most likely cause of the residential fire was the television's power pack located in the bedroom.

**- Captain Bill Kehl,
Investigative Division**



Congratulations!

Bryan and Angie Mason welcomed a new addition to their family, Jared Michael Mason, on Thursday, January 27th at 12:10am. Bryan came home on the 25th as a total surprise to everyone after the military decided at the last minute to fly him back from Iraq on a 10-day paternity leave.

Since December 15th, Bryan has been serving at Camp LSA Anaconda in Balad, Iraq, with the Army National Guard's 939th Military Police Detachment.

- FF/Paramedic Bryan Mason
bryan.lee.mason@us.army.mil or bruce.knott@us.army.mil



Angie, Jared and Bryan Mason

Kip Benbow

If anyone would like to contact Kip, stationed in Afghanistan, you can reach him at :

kip.benbow@us.army.mil

HazMat Updates

Here are some recent additions to Hazmat Operations:

- 1) Light mast added to Hazmat 40.
- 2) Coffin compartments on top of the truck.
- 3) Sensor IR which is able to identify, or at a minimum classify, unknown powders and liquids.
- 4) Search Cam - a wireless camera with built-in spotlight, microphone and compass which appears on screen in the command area of the truck.

Feel free to ask hazmat team members for more information.

- Hazmat Training Officer, Gary Brandt

Spotlight



Anything can happen in the heat of the moment!

Union News

The Carmel firefighters have obtained a new identity in the fact that the Union has established its own district. Carmel Professional Firefighters' Local #4444. Your continued support is much appreciated and needed.

Until next time, everyone stay safe!

Lieutenant Orbie Bowles

131st Street Fire



On January 6th, a Bright House worker was attending to his job when he noticed a small fire in the garage area of the residence at 4248 W. 131st Street. Carmel Fire units were dispatched at 1012 hrs with a report of a

residence fire. Upon arrival, units reported heavy smoke coming from the garage area with occupants standing in the front yard. Crews contained the fire at 1104 hrs.

Damage to the residence was estimated to be approximately \$200,000. The fire was contained to the garage and attic of the single story ranch.

The resident placed a generator outside the garage around 7AM after their power went out around 3AM. The generator was powering the sump pump and other items. When he left for work he had to move the generator from behind his car and placed it next to the garage. Another resident let the dog out into the garage around 9AM and went back to sleep, not seeing anything unusual. She was later awakened by loud pounding on the front door and before she could answer, two passing drivers had come upstairs to help her outside. One of the two men was treated at the hospital for smoke inhalation and released.

Investigators believe a generator too close to the wood siding caused the fire. Hot exhaust was blowing directly onto the siding and ignited it, quickly spreading to nearby gas cans. The garage was a total loss and the attic area of the single story attached residence also sustained heavy damage. The family had 2 pets, a cat and dog. The dog lost its life and the cat was saved.

**- Lt. Alan Young
A-Shift Investigator**



CAP Food and Gift Drive

This year, we delivered food to over 230 families, many of which received gifts as well. CAP began in 1967 and has continued to grow each year through firefighter and local contributions.

Working with Nancy Chance from the Good Samaritan organization of Hamilton County, we registered families in need in our area. Nancy does an excellent job of providing us with all the details about each family. City and township organizations help spread the word that we needed sponsors for these families.

Bruce, Keith, and Chris Walker took charge in organizing the drive. Chris paired up the sponsors with the families using voice-mail and an internet sign-up form system allowing Bruce and Keith to concentrate on the other details.

Carmel Financial again donated and delivered all of their non-perishable food a week before the delivery date. Station #41 A-shift firefighters spent a morning putting together and packing approximately 750



boxes! Likewise, a week before delivery, sponsors were given gift wish lists and could drop off purchased gifts at Headquarters.

The morning of the food and gift delivery was one of our quickest and smoothest delivery mornings ever. After the deliveries, we were able to get rid of all of our extra food items to Good Samaritan and clean up the bay area by noon. Thank you to the many volunteers, on and off-duty personnel, and corporate contributors who helped make this all possible. Mark your calendars for the next CAP Food and Gift Drive on December 17th!

- Keith Freer, Survive Alive Coordinator

EMS Updates

The grant committee is meeting March 30th for the final vote on LifeNet. Marion County will be using this system too so both counties will have the same one. LifeNet tells us there will be about a 6 month implementation period which will begin as soon as the contract is signed.

Good luck to all the Paramedic students who are entering their busiest period.

Congratulations to A41 and E46 C-shift for an outstanding Cardiac Run. 31 minutes from the time of the 911 call until the patient was in the cath lab at the Heart Center! Thanks to all CFD Personnel for the job you do and for making us the best EMS system in the State!

- EMS Director, Tom Small

TeleStaff Update

Hope everyone is ready for spring, it's just around the corner... and so is TeleStaff! Ha ha.



We are actually getting closer and closer to going live with TeleStaff. No kidding.

- Lieutenant Orbie Bowles

Engineer Promotions

Approved March 2nd, effective March 12th

FF Cory Anderson	FF Ken Brant	FF Jim Buttler
FF Renee Butts	FF Barry Crane	FF Mike DeLong
FF Jim Dorsch	FF Dan Edwards	FFP Eric Frenzel
FF Jeff Grimes	FF Sam Haymaker	FF Adam Holden
FFP Ted Lenze	FF Rick Martin	FF Mike Musselman
FF Chuck Plumer	FFP Joe Price	FF Mitch Robinson
FF Brian Smith	FFP Brad Sombke	FF Kent Steury
FF Todd Utzig	FF Gregg Webb	FFP Andy Wyant

Congratulations everyone!

New Faces

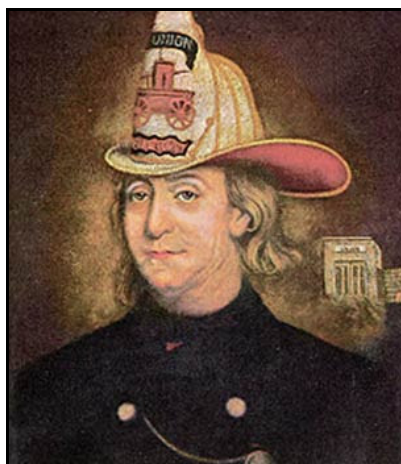


Dawn Pattyn joined us February 14th but has been working for the City since 1990. She will be with us part-time. Welcome!

Ben Franklin's "Ounce of Prevention" Led To Volunteer Firefighting In America

Reprinted with kind permission

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" is one of the most famous and oft-repeated maxims in America. Yet few persons realize that it is attributed to Benjamin Franklin, who was a fire prevention and fire protection activist.



A stylized portrait of Ben Franklin. The shed housing his Union Fire Company engine is in the background.

Here is the complete text of Franklin's famous quotation, which he penned in 1735:

"In the first place, as an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, I would advise how they suffer living brands-ends

or coals in a full shovel to be carried out of one room into another or up or down stairs, unless in a warmingpan and shut; for scraps of fire may fall into chinks and make no appearance until midnight; when your stairs being in flames, you may be forced (as I once was) to leap out of your windows and hazard your necks to avoid being over-roasted.

If chimneys were more frequently and more carefully clean'd some fires might thereby be prevented. I have known foul chimneys to burn furiously a few days after they are swept; people in confidence that they are clean, making large fires. Everybody among us is allow'd to sweep chimneys that please to undertake that business; and if a chimney fires thro' fault of the sweeper, the owner pays the fine and the sweeper goes free. This thing is not right.

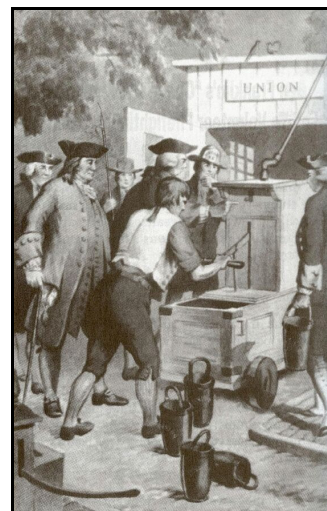
Those who undertake the sweeping of chimneys and employ servants for that purpose, ought to be licensed by the Mayor; and if any chimney fires and flames out 15 days after sweeping, the fine should be paid by the sweeper; for it is his fault."

According to the book "Franklin and Fire" published in 1906, "One result of this paper seems to have been the founding of the Union Fire Company in 1736 by

Franklin and four of his friends." They formed their fire company "for preserving our own and our fellow citizens' houses, goods, and effects in case of fire."

Benjamin Franklin and his Union Fire Company are credited by firefighting historians with popularizing the concept of organized volunteer firefighting in America. [note: This led to present-day career firefighting.]

— W. Fred Conway



Ben Franklin's Union Fire Company, organized in Philadelphia in 1736, is credited with popularizing the concept of volunteer firefighting in America.

(Continued from page 1)

dures. It will cover everything we do as a department including administration, operations, station duties, on-scene emergency operations, apparatus, communications, and mutual aid. The accreditation process is a complicated and sometimes difficult process.

If you are asking yourself, "Why are we applying for accreditation?" It is because it will truly benefit the department, community, and you as a firefighter down the road. Fire departments can no longer depend solely on tax dollars to fund our services. Skyrocketing costs of equipment, insurance, payroll, and training keeps departments scrambling for funding. We need to seek other sources of revenue, such as grants. Accredited fire departments are given extra consideration from most grant agencies. The accreditation process itself requires that we find additional sources of revenue to meet the emergency needs of our community, especially since 9/11/01. I look forward to accreditation being a very successful learning process for us all and hope I can count on your involvement.

- Fire Chief Doug Callahan